

CAB to Require IDP in 2005

The California Architects Board (CAB) voted at its May 24, 2000 meeting to start the process to develop regulations to require completion of the Intern Development Program (IDP) training requirement as a condition for licensure for all those who apply for eligibility for the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) on or after January 1, 2005.

The decision to adopt IDP does not affect California's education requirements, which means California candidates will still not need an accredited degree to get licensed in this state.

The Board will start the regulatory process to implement the new requirement. Given the impact of the proposal, it will probably take the Board up to a year to identify and resolve all of the regulatory issues and formally adopt regulations.

INTERNDEVELOPM ENT PROGRAM

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA) jointly sponsor IDP, which has five objectives:

- define areas of architectural practice in which interns should acquire basic knowledge and skills
- encourage additional training in the broad aspects of architectural practice
- provide the highest quality information and advice about educational, internship, and professional issues and opportunities
- provide a uniform system for documentation and periodic assessment of internship activity
- provide greater access to educational opportunities designed to enrich training

NCARB requires IDP for NCARB certification. By 2001, 46 states will require completion of IDP training for licensure.

PROPOSED POLICY GUIDELINES

The Board is moving forward to adopt IDP regulations reflecting the following policy guidelines:

1. The effective date will be January 1, 2005. All new and inactive candidates applying to the Board for eligibility evaluation for the ARE will be required to complete IDP or the Intern Architect Program of Canada (IAP) prior to licensure. (An inactive candidate is a candidate who has not taken any division of the ARE for five or more years. The application files of inactive candidates are purged; however, ARE scores remain valid.)

Candidates who have applied with the Board for eligibility evaluation **and** been deemed eligible will continue under the existing rules. However, those candidates who apply after December 31, 2004 or who are not yet deemed eligible by December 31, 2004 will be subject to the new rules effective January 1, 2005, including mandatory completion of IDP/IAP.

- 2. Reciprocity candidates with NCARB Certification will be exempt from the IDP/IAP requirement upon receipt in the Board office of the candidate's NCARB blue cover file transmitted by NCARB.
- 3. Reciprocity candidates without NCARB Certification will be required to either complete IDP/IAP or submit verification of three (3) years of licensed practice in another state.



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4. Instate candidates who are licensed architects in qualifying foreign countries will be required to either complete IDP/IAP or submit proof of licensure in a qualifying foreign country and verification of five (5) years of licensed practice in that qualifying foreign country <u>AND</u> verification of one (1) year of work experience under a U.S. licensed architect.

REASONFOR IM PLEM ENTATION

Over the years, CAB has sought to set appropriate standards for entry into the practice of architecture in order to balance the need to protect the public with the need to ensure that unreasonable barriers to entering the practice are not established. CAB is concerned about the level of competency of its candidates as derived through their internship. Completion of IDP not only helps ensure the minimal competence of architectural candidates but also facilitates interstate and international practice.

FUTURE ACTIONS

California still has issues with some of the administrative aspects of IDP and will continue to work with NCARB and AIA to make it more flexible and less paperwork intensive.

The Board issued this special edition in an effort to let all of our licensees and candidates know about the decision. CAB will provide more detailed information on the decision in our July newsletter.

If you have any questions, please contact us by e-mail at cab@dca.ca.gov or by FAX at (916) 445-8524. If we receive it in time, we will attempt to answer the question(s) in the next (July) newsletter.